

# Notice to Farmers!

WE WILL CALL FOR AND PAY CASH FOR

**Dead or Worthless Horses and Cows  
Sheep and Hogs**

Just ring Heber City 57-J or 57-W and ask the  
operator to Reverse the Charges, and Zip—

We'll have someone there!

We Also Buy HIDES, PELTS, FURS and WOOL.

***Colorado Animal By-Products  
Co.***

One mile South of Heber City, on Provo Hiway.

HEBER CITY—PHONE 57-J or 57-W



ENCE is an artistic reminder of the  
ryone had a barn, cow and pasture.

# Michael Probst Receives

## Master's Degree at USU

2 July 1987

Michael Eugene Probst, Midway, received a master of science degree in agriculture science at Utah State University commencement June 6.

Probst attended Wasatch High School and received a bachelor of science degree in agricultural education at Utah State in 1977. He lives in Midway and is an appraiser for Utah Farm Production

Credit Association.

He is a son of Eugene and Darlene Probst, 331 Pine Canyon Drive, Midway. He and his wife, Joan Sunderland of Lehi, have five children.

As part of his work for his master's degree at USU, Probst completed a youth guide for selecting, feeding, fitting and showing market steers.

# FFA Leadership Conference

9 Aug 1984

On July 31 the officers of the Wasatch Chapter of Future Farmers of America attended a leadership conference given by the state association at Utah Technical College.

At the conference different chapters gave demonstrations on such things as their parent-member banquet, food for America. BOAC and FFA etiquette given by the state association. Officers attended classes acc-

ording to their rank. In these classes goals were set on how to better improve our chapter, member attendance and our performance as officers.

Awards were given to outstanding chapters. Bear River received the National Chapter Award. Fred Christensen, Bear River's advisor, received the outstanding teaching award.

The state association introduced a new filing system which consists

of 1) official manual, 2) catalog of FFA supplies, 3) National FFA Magazine, 4) Between Issues comes out between magazine issues, 5) student handbook, 6) advisor's handbook, 7) resource file, 8) ag-ed computer network and 9) alumni who are always there to help us.

We would like to thank the state for the opportunity they gave us to try to become better leaders.



# Agriculture

Farm and garden  
news from local  
and national writers



## Farmers, Ranchers Face Rural Crime Problem

By THERESA WALLA  
HELENA, Mont. (UPI) —  
"They're stealing the farm," the late Slim Pickens shouted in a film produced by Montana's Department of Livestock to demonstrate the growing problem of rural crime.

It is a problem that has received scant attention in recent years. But statistics show rural robberies and burglaries in the United States are rising at twice the rate for the same crimes in urban areas.

With alarming regularity, unprotected haystacks, cattle and farm equipment are falling victim to theft and vandalism. Farmers must absorb the losses because they can't raise prices to cover crime losses the way many retailers can.

he short film featuring Pickens

deals with a problem that William J. Foster of East Helena, Mont., can explain in a personal way: he lost two cows and a bull a few years ago to either mischief, mistake or malice. The animals were valued at \$1,300.

"That would have bought a nice snowmobile or vacation or something," he wistfully said.

Foster said his problems with crime at his Valley Ranch have generally been small, but have been increasing in recent years.

The rancher lives in rural Lewis and Clark County, where Under-sheriff Ed Schild said the most common crimes are cattle rustling, trespassing, hunting and fishing violations, stolen farm equipment and cabin break-ins.

That's not to say, he hastened to add, that farmers and ranchers are

immune from such traditionally urban crimes as murder and robbery. But usually, Schild said, landowners in outlying areas fall victim to vandalism, theft or accidental property damage.

One of Foster's cows was killed by accident, when a hunter thought he saw an elk "and got my cow instead." The other cow was grazed by a bullet and paralyzed. The bull was simply shot through the rib cage.

"I just kind of chalk it up to a business loss," Foster said, pointing out that he's happy his problems seem limited to minor "harassment."

He doesn't have any other way of explaining why someone shot several holes in a sprinkler-engine cover when it wasn't even hunting season. He also lost a few bales of

hay last fall.

"We didn't even report it because there's nothing they (the sheriff's department) can do," he said. "Really, in all fairness, they don't seem to be too sensitive to farmers and ranchers. If I have a cow in the road, they'll certainly call me up and tell me I have a cow in the road. But when I need their help, they say 'That's the way it goes.'"

Rural crimes pose tough problems for sheriff's deputies, who often spend much of their time investigating unwitnessed thefts that may go undiscovered for months.

Mark Brady, deputy sheriff in Montana's Missoula County, said his difficulties start with farmers and ranchers themselves.

"The problem is, these rural

people like to handle their own problems," he said. "One of these days they're going to catch someone on their property and we're not going to hear about it."

Jack and Ruby Lord, ranchers near Great Falls, Mont., take their losses in stride. Their pickup, hay, headlights and truck batteries have been stolen, one of their cows was butchered on the spot and hauled away, and a car that was set on fire on a nearby road burned part of their property.

Even so, they haven't put much time or money into security.

"Well, I tell you, you work about 14 hours a day," Ruby Lord says, "and you can't work all day and guard your stuff at night."

No, but you can lock it up, says Claire Rhein, who lives on a farm in the Bitterroot Valley near Stev-

ensville, Mont. "In our area," she says, "which is really rural but becoming suburban, people are locking things."

It's not a lifestyle she and her husband, Leo, appreciate. Nor do they always see their neighbors adapting to their changing environment.

Bill Ellis, who ranches three miles southwest of Cascade, Mont., is one man who has openly announced his willingness to shoot anyone tampering with his property. "So the story gets around and that's good advertising," he said.

Brady, of course, advocates other measures to prevent what he calls "crimes of opportunity." Marking property is a good start, but installing lights is probably the "cheapest type of burglar alarm," he said.



# FFA Members Compete in Contests

2 May 1985

On April 9 and 10 FFA members from the Wasatch Chapter attended judging contests at BYU.

The FFA members on the Livestock Judging Team were: Joanne Snyder, Alayna Jensen, Kathy Luke and Deren Smith.

The FFA members from the Horse Judging Team were: Crystal Stephens, Stacy Stephens, Terese Bassett, Marie Dansie and Ernest Ferguson. The horse judging team placed

first and Crystal Stephens was 3rd High Individual out of 171 contestants.

The FFA members on the Poultry Judging Team were: Jason Knight, Ralph Young, Lee Young, Travis Anderson and Brad Mulliner. The Poultry Judging Team placed third and Jason Knight was 2nd High Individual.

The FFA members from the dairy judging team were: Todd Wall, Rhet Ingram, Rod Smith,

Shane Radmall, Bryan Muhlestein, Brett Muhlestein and Justin McPhie.

On April 26, the Horse, Livestock and Dairy Judging Teams attended the Payson Judging Contest. The Horse Judging Team placed 4th and Alayna Jensen was second high individual in Livestock.

The top four individuals from these team will go to State Judging Contests held at Utah State University on May 8 and 9.

# FFA Member of the Month

Joanne Snyder

16 May 1985



**Joanne Snyder**

Joanne Snyder is the daughter of Mr. Sherdon Snyder and Mrs. Billie Christensen.

Joanne has been very active in FFA. In 1983-84 she was committee chairman over earnings and savings. In 1984-85 she was the Chapter Secretary. Both of these she was a Chapter Secretary. This year she is the Chapter President. She is in charge of the activities and

meetings.

She is an honor roll student, a member of the varsity volleyball team, and a member of FBLA.

Her project is two horses, one which is a quarterhorse and one which is an arabian. They are both pleasure horses.

Joanne likes all sports and the outdoors. After graduating she plans to go to college and major in Business Management.

Reporter Marie Dansie



# One farmer learns to cope with times

By PAUL HARVEY

6-24-86

(c) 1986, Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Joe Collins' family has been farming in Wayne County, Ga., for four decades — corn, soybeans and tobacco.

Except for pine trees, everybody in southeast Georgia grows corn, soybeans and tobacco.

Even when beans went to \$5, corn went below \$3 and tobacco was selling for \$1.54 a pound.

Meanwhile the Collins family was still going to the store paying top prices for something to eat.

Joe was losing his farm when a longtime family friend suggested he try planting what he was eating.

So a year ago, Joe grew some cucumbers, bell peppers and squash. It was a good crop. He got a good price.

But still the income was not keeping up with the mortgage.

This year, January, his friend, James Harper, offered to bail him out.

What he proposed was the creation of a corporation — to buy Joe's place, finance irrigation, build a pack house and get Joe back on his feet to where he could eventually buy back his own farm.

To shuck right down to the cob, farmer Joe Collins is now making more money on a hundred acres than he used to make on several hundred.

And when Georgia corn wilts in the sun, Joe's irrigated zucchini squash, bell peppers and eggplant are thriving.

The several local folks who formed the corporation, in addition to Harper, include a CPA, a radiologist, two attorneys and a newspaper publisher.

They are able to contribute expertise to the management of the business while the farmer is left free to farm.

They made a deal with a first-class food broker in Florida so that what Joe grows is already being marketed as far away as Baltimore, Washington, D.C., and New York City.

Planting time and harvest, Joe and his family are not enough. Migrant farm workers help.

But the numbers this early in the first year indicate that Southeast Georgia Farms -- though presently only one farm -- will more than pay its way.

I know Dink Nesmith, the publisher involved. He hopes this example might be emulated elsewhere, as farmers learn to adapt to a changing market.

That will not be easy.

In Georgia, they frequently retell the story about the peanut sharecropper who lost money every year until his partner insisted he try soybeans.

When he heard at the end of the first year that his beans had made a profit, he said, "Thank heaven! Now we can go back to growing peanuts!"

So, as I say, it won't be easy. But already the fastest-growing cash crop in what were the cotton fields of Alabama -- is catfish. So we can adapt.



## Protect Utah's prime farmland

10-30-86

When a road department builds a new highway through a farming area, it too frequently considers the alignment of the road first and the inconvenience to the farmer last. Look at all the farms in Utah that have been sliced in half, forcing farmers to considerable effort to get from one part of the farm to another over a busy highway.

That policy should change in Utah, as it's changing elsewhere. Michigan's governor recently signed a new farmland protective measure to preserve prime farmland from encroachment by roads, prisons, or other government activity. Before Michigan will allot money for such projects, state officials must evaluate how the project will affect farms.

Michigan is not the first to adopt such policies. At least 10 other states — not including Utah — already have similar measures through executive directives. At least three other states have adopted protective policies by legislative action.

Michigan has unique problems in preserving its farmland. Nationally, 58 percent of America's most productive farming counties are located near heavily populated areas. In Michigan, that figure is about 93 percent.

Utah has some of those same problems. Much of the most arable land is along the highly populated Wasatch Front. Developers like to buy up irrigated farmland because they can sell the water rights in many cases and pay most, if not all, of the land costs. As a result, much of the best farmland is disappearing into housing subdivisions and other developments.

Farmers, of course, shouldn't be prevented from selling their land to the highest bidder. But neither should they be subject to land condemnation suits that cut up their farmland in small, unmanageable plots if they do not want to sell.

Utah should seriously consider adopting such protective policies to help preserve the best farmland.

# Agriculture

## Sugar industry leaders see high prices, shortages

WASHINGTON (AP) — A sugar industry leader predicts consumers will pay higher prices and may even run into some shortages as a result of the Reagan administration's decision to cut import quotas 41 percent for 1987.

Nicholas Kominus, president of the U.S. Cane Sugar Refiners Association, said Tuesday that the reduction in the amount of raw sugar that can be imported into the United States will be devastating to an "already battered cane sugar refining industry."

Kominus asked that the cutback be reconsidered. If not, he said, "the tight quota is going to push sugar prices up. There will be disruptions and there could be shortages."

The 1987 quota should be increased by 200,000 to 300,000 tons from the level of slightly more than 1 million tons announced on Monday by Agriculture Secretary Richard E. Lyng, said Kominus. That represented a 41 percent reduction from this year's quota of more than 1.7 million tons.

Annual quotas are spread among sugar-producing countries, and for many, those are primary earners of foreign exchange. Foreign raw sugar then is refined for the U.S. domestic market.

"Eight refineries have been shut down since 1981," Kominus said in a statement. "And unless a realistic import quota is established, more will close."

In his announcement on Monday,

Lyng said the high U.S. sugar support prices are to blame, along with a decline in the consumption of cane and beet sugar, and a continued rise in the use of sweeteners from corn.

Lyng said the administration will seek an overhaul of the sugar program, including a lowering of government price supports for sugar beets and sugar cane.

But Kominus said that USDA's sugar quota decision "is a classic example of overkill" and that "it far exceeds the mandate from the Congress that the sugar program be operated at no cost to the government. It totally ignores the congressional intent that further reductions in refining capacity be avoided."





## Plenty of great activities at historic Wheeler farm

Christmas may be over, but not the holidays, and there's fun for the kids at Wheeler Historic Farm, 6351 S. Ninth East, which holds an open house this weekend with its "Tastes and Smells of Christmas."

"Pay a unique and memorable visit to the traditions of Christmas 1890," says curator/director A. Glen Humpherys.

From noon until 4 p.m. on Dec. 27 and 28, activities will include a tour of the restored Victorian-era farmhouse, decorated in Christmas style of the period, with treats of the season. A donation of 50 cents for adults and 25

cents per child is requested to defray costs.

Visitors may take a walk around the farmyard to see the animals, restored buildings and frozen ponds. Depending on snow conditions, the majestic draft horses will provide a sleigh ride (or hayride) at 50 cents a head through the hills and woods of this 70-acre place-out-of-time in Salt Lake County.



# Apple Disease Appears In Wasatch County

23 July 1987

Fire blight, a bacterial disease which attacks apple and pear orchards, has appeared in Wasatch County apple trees, according to Val Warnick of the Utah State University Extension office in Wasatch County. He cautions that fire blight also threatens certain ornamentals.

All susceptible plants are in the rose family, including pyracantha, hawthorne, cotoneaster, mountain ash and crab apple.

In information distributed by the Extension Service, Cindy R. Buol, plant diagnostician, and Sherman V. Whomson, Extension plant pathologist, explain:

The fire blight bacteria are most active in warm, humid weather (65 to 80 degrees Fahrenheit), usually flowering time.

Infected, young terminal shoots, blossoms and flowers wilt and turn black and their pedicels (stems) also die. Small droplets of amber-colored bacterial ooze are often present on the pedicel. Young blighted shoots wilt from the top down, typically forming a shepherd's crook.

Cankers, slightly sunken with red margins, are usually found in wood two years old or older.

To control, avoid overfertilizing with nitrogen to prevent excessive new growth which is the most susceptible to infection. Do not sprinkler irrigate susceptible plants — it spreads the bacteria. Prune and space plants and trees to allow air circulation.

During dormancy, inspect plants carefully for cankers or blighted twigs. Remove and destroy infected tissues, cutting 8 to 12 inches below the infected tissue. Break out blighted tissue when observed in the spring and dispose of infected plant parts by burning or in the trash.

Bactericides (e.g. Bordeaux, basic copper sulfate, copper oxychloride, copper oxide and copper hydroxide) can be applied during the period of flower when plants are most susceptible but most are not available in small quantities for home owners.

For more information, contact Val Warnick at 654-3211.



Greg Price of Midway is greeted in Washington, D.C., by Rick Nagel of Rensselaer, Indiana, Washington program director of the Future Farmers of America. Greg is attending the week-long National FFA Washington Conference program.

## FFA Member Attends Washington Conference

Wave 23 July 1987

Greg Price of the Wasatch FFA Chapter of Heber City is attending the 1987 Washington Conference Program in our nation's capital.

The week-long program helps FFA members improve leadership skills, develop an understanding of national heritage, and prepare for more effective leadership roles in their chapters and communities. Sessions on human relations, goal setting, and personal communications develop these skills. Personal outlook, motivation, and pride are also discussed.

Visits to Mount Vernon,

the Smithsonian Institution, Arlington National Cemetery, the Jefferson Memorial and other historic sights in Washington are included in the conference. A highlight of the week is a visit to the office of Senator Jake Garn and Senator Orrin Hatch. The FFA members also had an opportunity to visit both the House of Representatives and Senate Chambers while Congress was in session.

His FFA advisors are Allan Sulser and Reed Stephens.

The trip to the conference was sponsored by Wasatch FFA of Heber City.



# First video hay auction slated

10-2-87

Alfalfa hay from some of Oklahoma's top producers will be sold Oct. 16 in what is being billed as the nation's first video hay auction.

The one-hour auction starts at 1 p.m. Mountain Time, on Spacenet 1 satellite, Channel 7. Anyone in Utah with a satellite dish can tune in on the auc-

tion, according to DeeVon Bailey, Utah State University Extension economist.

Bailey said the video hay auction is similar to the video livestock auction which has been used in Utah this year to market between 25,000 and 30,000 head of cattle.

During the auction, viewers

will see the hay, hear descriptions of its characteristics and history, and participate in the bidding. The phone number for placing bids will appear on the screen.

Video segments on production and feeding of alfalfa will also be shown.



## Local Scholarship Offered

24 Feb 1988

The Heber Valley Livestock Scholarship Committee is taking applications for their current scholarship. Applications can be picked up at the high school counselor's office, Vo-Ag advisor, or the USU County Extension office in the courthouse. Applications must be turned in to the extension office by March 15.

The scholarship amount will be

\$500 for 1988. The applicant must major in an agricultural related field and also maintain a 2.5 grade point average. The applicant must either be a senior at Wasatch High School or a past graduate of Wasatch High School.

If you have any questions, please contact the USU Extension Service at 654-3211, ext. 322.

## National FFA Week to be Recognized

24 Feb 1988

More than 416,000 FFA members will promote FFA, high school agriculture and the food and fiber industry during National FFA Week, Feb. 20-27.

FFA members in more than 8,000 chapters across the U.S., including the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, will be organizing events and activities to create awareness of and support for high school agriculture and FFA.

This year's theme for the week, FFA — Agriculture's New Spirit, will be seen throughout communities nationwide, not only through promotional efforts of local members, but also through a national public service announcement campaign.

FFA activities and high school agriculture classes emphasize leadership skills, innovative practices and the application of both to the

industry of agriculture.

FFA is a national organization of 416,000 students in 8,000 local chapters preparing for agricultural careers. FFA activities and award programs complement instruction in high school agriculture by giving students practical experience in the application of agricultural skills and knowledge gained in classes. Developing agricultural leadership, cooperation and citizenship is FFA's major objective.

## Sweetheart Royalty Selected



by Gladys Duke

On Feb. 12 the FFA Sweetheart Contest was held. During the week the 10 contestants had to dress a goat, saddle a horse, and dress up as their favorite farm animal. They also made a poster, hall decoration, and decorated a cake. All the contestants did well.

Angie McKenzie was chosen Sweetheart; Kim Purcell, first attendant; and Gladys Duke, second attendant and Miss Congeniality. We would like to thank Susie Wade and her committee for all the hard work they went through to put on the contest.

FFA Week is celebrated Feb. 20-27. There was an FFA display in Finn's Reata and a poster contest. The winners were: first place, Jolyn Huffaker and Nizhone Kee; second place, Teena Jepperson; third place, Heather Catherine.

We would like to congratulate Ben Fitzgerald, Greg Price, Kim Purcell, Brenda Wade, and Scott McPhie. They received their State Farmer degree.





The Wasatch Soil Conservation District Supervisors received the Goodyear Conservation Award as the outstanding District in the state at the State Conservation Convention held last week in Provo. Supervisors for the Wasatch Soil Conservation District are: Curtis Muir, Alan Brown, Claude Hicken, Dan Wright and George Holmes. The District has done outstanding work in promoting soil and water conservation during the past year. Claude has been selected to attend the National Goodyear Conservation Tour to be held next month in Arizona. 11-23-88

## Utah Farm Bureau honors Emer Wilson

27 NOV 1988

A Wasatch County man has been honored by the state's largest farm organization with its Distinguished Service Award.

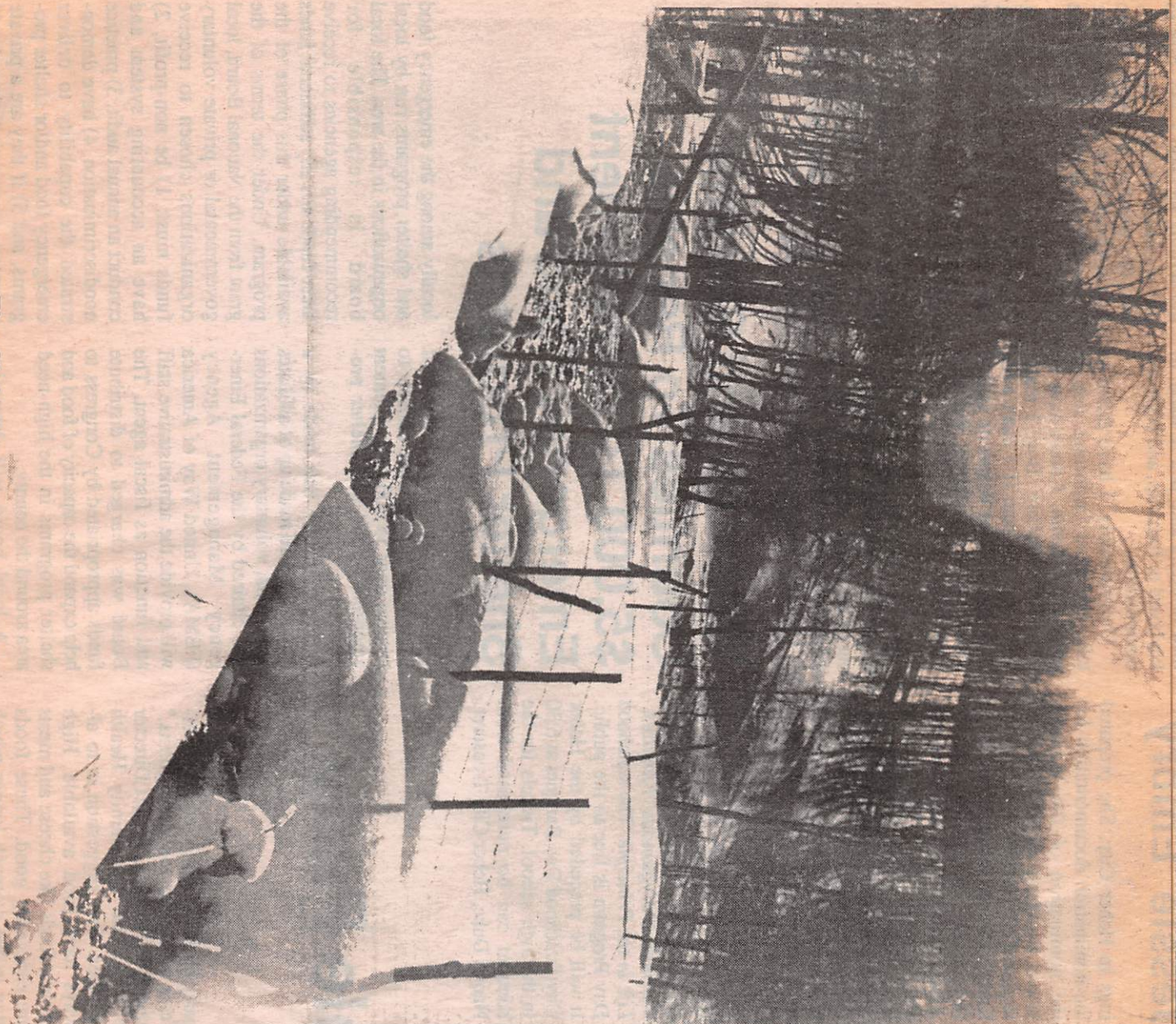
Emer Wilson, Midway, received this honor at the recent Utah Farm Bureau's Awards and Recognition Program.

Wilson was honored by Farm Bureau for his 30 years of service as president of the Wasatch County Farm Bureau. A dairy, sheep and cattle producer, Wilson raises alfalfa hay and grains on his farm near Heber City.

Wilson has been actively involved in community service

all his life. He has served on the boards of directors of many irrigation and canal companies, and currently serves as president of the Wasatch Water Users Association. He has also served on the local board of directors of the Farmers Home Administration. In addition to this service, Wilson has also served as a member of the Wasatch County Fair Board, and as president of the Swiss Days Organizing Committee. He is currently owner of Wilson Camps, Inc., a manufacturer of mobile camping trailers for use in the livestock industry.





# White Christmas

The Christmas season was complete as Mother Nature worked her magic and gave Wasatch County a deeper than usual covering of fluffy white snow. A series of storms dropped more snow on the area than had been recorded in any one snowstorm in the past five years.

28 Dec 1988

## Jan. 1 Snow Pack Below Average

1-1-89

December snowstorms increase snow pack but falls short of long-time average. Because of spotty snowfall, the snow pack ranges from 74 percent of average at Trial Lake to 120 percent of average at Smith-Morehouse.

Stream flow has been below average from October to December increasing the need for above average snow pack.

The Soil Conservation Service reports the following snow course measurements: Trial Lake has 38 inches of snow; 8.1 inches of water. This is 74 percent of the long time average compared to last year's 60 percent of average. Beaver Divide has 23 inches of snow, 44 inches of water, 77 percent of average.

Smith-Morehouse has 30 inches of snow, 6.7 inches of water, 120

percent of average. Last was 57 percent of average.

Chalk Creek #1 has 41 inches of snow, 9.9 inches of water, 99 percent of average. Chalk Creek #2 has 33 inches of snow, 6.5 inches of water, 100 percent of average. Chalk Creek #3 has 21 inches of snow, 3.7 inches of water, 103 percent of average.

Redden Mine has 33 inches of snow, 6.5 inches of water, 76 percent of average.

Curran Creek has 27 inches of snow, 4.7 inches of water, 104 percent of average. Last year average was 33 percent.

Daniels-Strawberry Summit has 27 inches of snow, 5.4 inches of water, 87 percent of average.

Soil moisture and reservoir storage is below average. For more information, call 654-0242.







## Wasatch, Summit, and Morgan County Farmers Now Eligible For USDA Disaster Emergency Loans

Farmers in Wasatch, Morgan, and Summit County, who suffered production and physical losses because of natural disaster in those counties, may now apply for Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) Emergency Loans, FmHA County Supervisor, Dale Carlson said today.

Carlson said farmers who suf-

fered qualifying production and physical losses due to damages caused by drought conditions which occurred Jan. 1, 1989, through Sept. 15, 1989, may apply for loans at a reduced interest rate in 80 percent of the production losses incurred. The maximum loan cannot exceed \$500,000.

Farmers, who think they are eli-

gible, may apply for assistance at the FmHA County Office, 30 South Main, Coalville, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. The deadline for accepting applications is Oct. 1, 1990.

Carlson urged farmers to file their applications as early as possible to speed processing and check delivery.

## FFA State Convention



On March 22, 23 and 24, 17 members of the Wasatch FFA Chapter traveled to Cedar City for

The second general session started at 2 p.m. on Friday. The theme for this session was "A Time For...Commitment." Conducting this session was Jim Wilson, State FFA vice president. Next they began to introduce the sweethearts in the crowning of the State FFA sweetheart was Kim Brown, from Beaver. Scott Crouch, who is the 1989-90 National FFA secretary, spoke to them on remarks and leadership.

Also in this session, they heard



Shanna Gappmayer



Kim Shumway



## Local Resident Heads Fancy Poultry Association

At the annual winter show of the Utah Fancy Poultry Association held Jan. 17-20 in the Coliseum at the Utah State Fairgrounds, a local resident, Clyde Montgomery, was elected president of the organization for 1991. This organization has a membership throughout seven Western States.

Others elected as officers were Warren Tye, Murray, vice president; Frank Takahashi, Ogden, secretary; directors include Ed Carter, Provo; Ralph Steele, Goshen; Lee Barnes, Lehi, and Don Frame, Taylorsville.

The Winter Poultry Show had 606 entries from throughout Utah,

Idaho, Wyoming, and California. Grand champion of the show was an Old English Cock exhibited by Gordon Johnson, Salt Lake City. Champion Jr. Division entry was an Old English Hen exhibited by Scott Montgomery, Heber City.

Other local entries winning recognition were by Wayne Montgomery winning Best of Breed in the Wyndotte Bantam Class with a Partridge Wyndotte Pullet and Best of Breed in the Rhode Island Red Class (Bantam and Large) was won by Clyde Montgomery with a Bantam Pullet and a Large Cockerel.

## FmHA Announces New Interest Assistance Program

The Farmers Home Administration is launching a new program to help local farmers obtain credit from local lenders, according to E. Lee Hawkes, FmHA state director for Utah. Known as the Interest Assistance Program, it provides strong incentives for commercial lenders to make loans to farmers who otherwise would not qualify.

Interest Assistance Program training meetings have been scheduled at Ogden April 4. The meetings will be held in Room 4118 of the Federal Building. The meeting time commences at 10 a.m. and concludes at 3 p.m.

Local lenders are encouraged to attend at least the first session of this training from 10 a.m. to noon. They are also welcome to attend the afternoon sessions if they so desire.

Under the new program, FmHA will pay up to four percentage points of interest for farmers to help them qualify for FmHA guar-

anteed loans. "If a creditworthy farmer can't cash flow with a guaranteed bank loan at regular interest rates, we can pay part of that interest for him until he can," Hawkes said.

The percentage of interest FmHA will pay depends on the financial condition of the farmer. FmHA will pay only the number of points necessary to help the farmer cash flow with a small reserve.

An FmHA guaranteed loan is made by a bank, PCA, or other lender with an agreement from FmHA that if the loan goes bad, FmHA will compensate the lender for up to 90 percent of its loss. "That guarantee plus the new interest assistance," Hawkes said, "should greatly increase availability of farm credit through the private sector."

"The program, made law in late 1990, was put on a fast track, so as to assist farmers in time for the 1991 planting season," Hawkes added.

According to Hawkes, the level of interest assistance will be adjusted each year, based on a review of the borrower's need for continued assistance. In addition, a borrower must be able to project a positive cash flow, including a 10 percent debt-service reserve to qualify for assistance. This is the same rule for guaranteed farm loans not receiving interest assistance.

Additional details about the Interest Assistance Program can be obtained from any FmHA county or district office or from the FmHA state office at Federal Building Room 5438, 125 South State, Salt Lake City, UT 84138.



# Harvesting cranberries is an American tradition

For more than 350 years, Americans have looked forward to the fall harvest of cranberries — the brief period each year when fresh cranberries are available. Today, however, the enjoyment of these tiny, tart red berries need not be limited to Thanksgiving dinner and other fall meals. By purchasing them fresh, during the peak of the harvest, and freezing them, many people are discovering the luxury of enjoying cranberries all year.

The cranberry harvest begins officially mid-September and lasts through early November, depending on location, weather and type of berry. Cranberries grow low, on ground-hugging evergreen vines in peat bogs or marshes, which makes them difficult to harvest. Harvesting procedures, however, have advanced significantly throughout the years.

From the mid-1600s through the early part of this century, cranberry harvesters worked on their hands and knees, picking berries by hand as the Indians had first taught the Pilgrims. They also used a rake-toothed wooden scoop. (The bulky hand-held scoops are still used today, but only at the edge of the cranberry bogs where modern mechanical pickers cannot operate.)

Cranberries were so popular that, to ensure a full and equitable harvest, communities passed laws prohibiting berries from being picked before they were ripe. In the 1700s, Plymouth County and Cape Cod, Mass., levied fines against anyone found picking more than a quart of cranberries before Sept. 20; offenders had to forfeit their berries. New

Jersey soon passed a similar statute, and a later Wisconsin law specified a no-nonsense penalty of \$50.

On the Massachusetts and New Jersey coasts, cranberry harvests were abundant enough to supply the local Colonial market as well as the demand for English export. Cranberry demand was growing. Nicknamed "Little red waif of the swampland," the cranberry was considered a delicacy for sauces, tarts and beverages on both sides of the Atlantic. In America, cranberries also were used as a dye and as a source of vitamin C for scurvy prevention (American sailing ships carried barrels of water-packed cranberries the way the British vessels supplied their sailors with limes.)

Around 1816, a Cape Cod farmer happened to notice that cranberry vines near a sand dune produced bigger, better fruit where the ocean breeze kept them covered under a continuous layer of sand. Modern cranberry culture stems from this discovery and so does the name of Ocean Spray Cranberries Inc., the cooperative to which most contemporary U.S. cranberry growers belong.

Today's cranberries grow in carefully cleared bogs that are covered with several inches of sand and scored by a system of ditches that transport water to the vines during dry spells. Water is also used to cover the cranberries with a protective layer of insulating ice during the dormant winter period. The berries are harvested using one of two methods.

Please see CRANBERRY on F6



A comb scoop is still often used to hand-harvest cranberries.



## COMING EVENTS

### JAFB plans re-enactment

**HILL AIR FORCE BASE** — A re-enactment of the 1940 groundbreaking ceremony marking the opening of construction at Hill Air Force Base will be held Friday, the beginning of the base's yearlong 50th anniversary celebration.

State, local and Air Force dignitaries will re-enact the Jan. 12, 1940, ceremony — also attended by state, local, and national defense dignitaries — at 11 a.m. near the Officers Open Mess building.

After remarks by the attending officials, a lunch with speeches is scheduled in the Open Mess.

Although not known for sure, base historians believe the actual site of the original groundbreaking ceremony is near the present-day control

United Press International

Only 38,000 pigs were bred in Utah in 1989, a 17 percent decline from the previous year, Utah Department of Agriculture officials said Monday.

The number of sows farrowing from December 1988 through November 1989 was down from the year before, from 5,900 head to 5,100, said DelRoy Gneiting, a statistician for the department's Agricultural Statistics Service.

"We're not a large hog state," Gneiting said. "But, with the slaughter plant (in Cache County), there is a lot of opportunity for hog raising in this state. The capacity is there," he said, noting the plant often buys hogs

from Ohio and Nebraska.

Gneiting said the average litter size of 7.5 pigs during 1989 also was down from 7.8 pigs per litter in 1988.

As of Dec. 1, 1989, he said, there were some 27,000 hogs and pigs in Utah, off 18 percent from a year ago and 10 percent below 1987 inventories. Hog breeding inventories stood at 4,000 head, 1,000 lower than the year before, while marketing hog inventory of 23,000 head was 5,000 below 1988 levels.

Utah had 900 hog operations in 1989, with a total inventory value of \$2.07 million, compared with the same number of operations in 1988, with a total value of \$2.3 million.

# The number of hogs raised in Utah drops 17% to 38,000



IDAHO

## Ranchers fear grazing reforms would undermine way of life

Associated Press

11-25-93

BOISE — Federal grazing permits traditionally have been considered an asset for farm loans, a measuring stick for the tax man and a family inheritance.

Now, Idaho ranchers fear the modern-day range war between Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt and Western lawmakers over grazing reforms could render those permits as worthless as Confederate dollars and cowboys could lose their way of life in short order.

"Today, the ranchers after years of good-faith effort — some of them over 100 years — have suddenly been told that what they owned and managed will be taken from them for no value," said Rayola Jacobsen of the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation.

Behind a filibuster, the West's congressional delegations fought to a standstill the legislative attempt to raise grazing fees and affect other changes. Babbitt will now try to make the reforms administratively without the approval of Congress.

"At this point, everybody is waiting to see what Babbitt will do. There are many attorneys like myself who are getting legal documents together," said Karen Budd Falen, a Cheyenne, Wyo., lawyer who specializes in ranchers' property rights.

"If Babbitt does all of this himself, we're going to court," she said.

Falen cites plenty of court cases in which ranchers have forced the government to reimburse them for lost grazing rights.

Since the inception of the Taylor Grazing Act more than 50 years ago, the permits have become so important that they largely determine how much the family ranch is worth.

"In many cases of ranchers in the last 30-40 years, when they dealt with the bank, the value of the total operation was based on permits," said Bob Sears, executive vice president of the Idaho Cattle Association.

The campaign to transform the grazing law has all but erased those benchmarks, Jacobsen says, and "now the banks are scrambling to see where their base is."

Babbitt wants to raise grazing fees that even Westerners like Idaho Gov. Cecil Andrus admit are too low now. He also would force improved range management with the leverage of government assumption of ownership of rancher-financed land and water improvements on range that has been abused.

Led by Oklahoma Congressman Michael Synar, support for that campaign is mounting amid charges taxpayers are subsidizing ranchers through unacceptably low fees. The critics say the grazing is severely damaging the open range that belongs to all Americans, not just the cattle industry.

Andrus believes cattle interests were shortsighted in rejecting the compromise offered them in the Senate this month. They could be on the verge of losing the war after

winning this latest battle.

"There's a lot of people on the other side of this question that say 'Cattle free in '93,'" says Andrus, the interior secretary in the Carter administration. "No one interest is entitled to control public lands. That means the cowboys shouldn't have control and the environmentalists shouldn't have control."

But to many Idaho ranchers, Sears says, it seems Babbitt and the Clinton Interior Department

want "to try to price those permits out of existence."

Stockmen faced with losing public pastures and paying more to graze on the remaining tracts may give up ranching, and the loss of local ranches is increasing the financial stress on counties with already small tax bases.

"It has to be of concern," says Dan Chadwick, executive director of the Idaho Association of Counties. "When a rancher loses employees by going out of business, you don't have those people going into town to buy things."

"You can lose your sense of community," Chadwick says. "The customs, the history goes out. You're losing your way of life."



